

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY D/DLAMB:MS
APPROVED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY
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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 113279 TOSEC 050002

NODIS
CHEROKEE - FOR THE SECRETARY FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: EVENING READING

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF EVENING READING, WEDNESDAY, MAY 3:

1. AFGHANISTAN. MOST WESTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING THE TURKS, PLAN TO COMPLY WITH AN AFGHAN GOVERNMENT REQUEST TO BE RECOGNIZED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS ON OR BEFORE SATURDAY, MAY 6. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD ACT NOW, ALONG WITH THE EUROPEANS. DELAY COULD JEOPARDIZE WHATEVER CHANCE WE MAY HAVE TO DEVELOP A SMOOTH RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NEW REGIME. WE ARE INFORMING THE IRANIANS OF OUR INTENTIONS AND IF THEY ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED, HOWEVER, WE WOULD REVIEW OUR POSITION.

2. EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. THE HIRC APPROVED THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR GREECE, TURKEY AND CYPRUS,
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INCLUDING A PROVISION TO REPEAL THE TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO, BY A VOTE OF 18 TO 17. THE PROGRAM WAS AMENDED TO INCLUDE LANGUAGE COMMITTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO WORK TOWARD A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT AND PROVIDING DOLS 35 MILLION IN GRANT MILITARY AID TO GREECE. ONLY TEN OF THE 23 DEMOCRATS ON THE COMMITTEE VOTED WITH US, INDICATING THAT OUR PROGRAM WILL FACE ROUGH SLEDDING ON THE HOUSE FLOOR. AS REPUB-

LICANS BROOMFIELD AND BUCHANAN POINTED OUT IN SPEECHES PRIOR TO THE VOTE, ULTIMATE PASSAGE WILL DEPEND ON HOW FORTHCOMING THE TURKS ARE ON CYPRUS OVER THE NEXT 4-6 WEEKS.

3. WESTERN ARMS SALES TO CHINA. WHILE IN LONDON ENROUTE BACK FROM MOSCOW, CY DISCUSSED THE CHINESE INTEREST IN THE HARRIER AIRCRAFT WITH DAVID OWEN AND TALKED TO FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD ABOUT CHINESE INTEREST IN THEIR ANTI-TANK MISSILES. BOTH SAID THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS WOULD PROCEED CAREFULLY IN CONSIDERING SUCH SALES. THE FRENCH HAVE NOW TOLD US THAT THEY HAVE DECIDED IN PRINCIPLE TO SELL A LIMITED NUMBER OF ANTI-TANK MISSILES, PROVIDED THEY CAN OBTAIN ACCESS TO THE CHINESE MARKET FOR FRENCH COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS IN RETURN. THE FRENCH ARE ASKING THAT THIS INFORMATION BE TREATED WITH EXTRAORDINARY DISCRETION.

4. MEETING WITH AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS. CY MET TODAY WITH EUGENE GOLD OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY AND RABBI SCHINDLER TO DISCUSS HIS TRIP TO MOSCOW AND THE SOVIET JEWRY ISSUE. CY TOLD THEM THAT THE GENERAL ATMOSPHERE OF U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS SEEMED TO BE BETTER AND DISCUSSED THE SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED RECENT EMIGRATION FIGURES. BOTH WERE APPRECIATIVE OF THE EFFORTS
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WE HAVE BEEN MAKING. GOLD INDICATED THAT HIS ORGANIZATION WOULD MAINTAIN A REASONABLE APPROACH, WHICH WE TAKE TO MEAN THAT THE AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERSHIP, WHILE CERTAINLY NOT APPLAUDING SOVIET PERFORMANCE ON EMIGRATION, WILL AVOID TAKING A RIGIDLY NEGATIVE STANCE.

5. UNIFIL. THE SECURITY COUNCIL AGREED TODAY TO ENLARGE UNIFIL BY AN ADDITIONAL 2000 TROOPS. DURING THE MEETING WALDHEIM REPORTED THAT YESTERDAY'S ATTACKS ON THE UN FORCE HAD LEFT TWO FRENCH AND ONE SENEGALESE DEAD. THE TEN WOUNDED INCLUDED THE COMMANDER OF THE FRENCH CONTINGENT. WALDHEIM SAID HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH ARAFAT, WHO HAD AGREED TO TRY TO BRING THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INCIDENTS INTO LINE. THE FRENCH HAVE SHOWN NO SIGN OF WAVERING IN THEIR COMMITMENT TO UNIFIL DESPITE THEIR LOSSES.

6. MIDDLE EAST AIRCRAFT PACKAGE. TODAY'S SFRC SESSION LASTED ALMOST FIVE HOURS. QUESTIONING WAS TOUGH, BUT OVERALL OUR PRESENTATION WENT WELL. SINCE THE HEARING WILL BE WIDELY REPORTED IN THE PRESS, I WILL NOT BURDEN THIS REPORT WITH A SUMMARY. ALTHOUGH ONE COULD HOPE THAT WE OPENED SOME MINDS, IT SEEMS APPARENT THAT WE WILL HAVE

TO WIN THIS BATTLE OUTSIDE THE SENATE HEARING ROOM.

LATE THIS AFTERNOON, FRANK MOORE AND I MET WITH DANTE FASCELL AND ABOUT A DOZEN MEMBERS OF HIRC. WE HAD A GOOD, FRANK EXCHANGE, AND WE HAVE AGREED TO MEET AGAIN NEXT MONDAY. WE WILL PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR INSTRUCTION, TO PROBE FOR THE RIGHT FORMULA TO WIN. NEXT WEEK WILL BE A CRUCIAL TIME.

CY HAD A PROMISING MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN BROOMFIELD THIS AFTERNOON, AND I WILL FOLLOW THAT UP TOMORROW. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, TOSEC, CAT-C, BRIEFING MATERIALS, POLITICAL SUMMARIES, CHEROKEE 5-4-78
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE113279
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MS
Enclosure: FOR THE SECRETARY FROM CHRISTOPHER
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P850004-1630
Format: TEL
From: STATE D
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780593/aaaadbdu.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 67dd98a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2791837
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EVENING READING
TAGS: OVIP, PEPR, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/67dd98a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014